

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously presented) A method comprising:
designating tags that specify data semantics to identify tables and/or attributes to be used in storing information in a text file using a relational database model;
storing the text file with the tags in a memory device; and
accessing the stored text file as a relational database via a programming interface that includes a procedure call format representing a declarative statement.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the tags comprise data domain generic tags.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the tags comprise data domain specific tags.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein the procedure call format specifies a plurality of inputs of a character string type for a procedure.

5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the inputs comprise a subset of the tags, and output data from the procedure does not include the tags.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the procedure call format supports one or more relational database operations, which include a select operation, an update operation, an add operation, an insert operation, and a delete operation.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the represented declarative statement corresponds to a relational database query protocol standard.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein the text file comprises plain text in American Standard Code for Information Interchange format.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein the plain text conforms to version 1.0 of Extensible Markup Language.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the relational database query protocol standard is International Standard 9075:1992.

11-20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently amended) A machine-readable storage medium embodying information indicative of instructions for causing one or more machines to perform operations comprising:

making information stored in a memory device as a text file comprising tags specifying data semantics corresponding to a relational database model available through a procedure call interface;

receiving from an application a relational database request using the procedure call interface;

accessing the stored text file in response to the request as a relational database via a programming interface that includes a procedure call format representing a declarative statement; and

returning data from the text file corresponding to the relational database request.

22. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 21, wherein the procedure call interface comprises a high-level language procedure call having a procedure call format representing a declarative statement.

23. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 21, wherein the procedure call interface, supports one or more relational database operations, which include a select operation, an update operation, an add operation, an insert operation, and a delete operation.

24. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 21, wherein the procedure call has a format corresponding to a relational database query protocol standard.

25. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 24, wherein the text file comprises plain text in American Standard Code for Information Interchange format, and wherein the plain text conforms to version 1.0 of Extensible Markup Language.

26. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage medium of claim 24,
wherein the relational database query protocol standard is International Standard 9075-1992.

27-30. (Canceled)